

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:DDEAN:PDW

APPROVED BY NEA:HNSAUNDERS

DOD/OSD/ISA - COL. PRADOS (SUBS)

DOD/DSAA - COL. PERKINS (SUBS)

PM - DKEENE

NEA/ARN - ARDAY

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O 102015Z OCT 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 242296

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, JO, US

SUBJECT: HAWK MISSILES: ROM ESTIMATES

REF: (A) AMMAN 6826

(B) SECDEF 072323Z OCT 75

(C) MAP AMMAN 2432

1. WE CONCUR IN YOUR GIVING ESTIMATES TO GOJ IF YOU FEEL IT IS NECESSARY. YOUR LETTER SHOULD EMPHASIZE THE CAUTIONARY NOTE THAT ESTIMATES ARE SUBJECT TO LATER CHANGE AND REFINEMENT AND YOU SHOULD EXPLICITLY POINT OUT THAT THE ESTIMATES THEREIN DO NOT COVER ALL EXPENSE CATEGORIES. ACCORDINGLY, WE ENDORSE YOUR INCLUDING UN COSTED CATEGORIES OF EXPENSES (CONSTRUCTION AND TRAINING) TO MAKE THIS POINT CLEAR.

2. FYI: THE MISSILE STRATEGIC RESERVE IS A NEW ELEMENT WHICH WOULD CERTAINLY BE A SURPRISE TO CONGRESS IF IT BECAME KNOWN. WE BELIEVE IT UNWISE, GIVEN CONGRESSIONAL SENSITIVITY, FOR THE USG TO PROVIDE AN ESTIMATE FOR

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ADDITIONAL MISSILES ABOVE THE NUMBER CONGRESS UNDERSTANDS

WE ARE PROVIDING IN THE LOA (532). CONGRESS IS WELL AWARE OF THIS NUMBER, WHICH FIGURED IN HEARINGS ON THE ISSUE, AND OUR PROVIDING AN ESTIMATE FOR ADDITIONAL MISSILES

WOULD MAKE IT SEEM THAT WE WERE LESS THAN CANDID WITH CONGRESS ABOUT THE NUMBERS INVOLVED IN THE SALE AND COULD ENDANGER THE COMPROMISE WE REACHED TO PERMIT THE SALE TO PROCEED. END FYI.

3. ACCORDINGLY, YOU SHOULD NOT PROVIDE AN ESTIMATE FOR MISSILE STRATEGIC RESERVE OR CARRY THE ITEM AS AN "UNESTIMATED CATEGORY" IN YOUR LETTER. WHILE WE APPRECIATE THE GOJ WISHING TO HAVE AS COMPREHENSIVE A COST PICTURE AS POSSIBLE TO PRESENT TO THE SAUDIS, YOU SHOULD EXPLAIN TO THE JORDANIANS THAT CONSIDERATION OF THE HAWK PACKAGE IN WASHINGTON (INCLUDING IN CONGRESS) WAS BASED COMPLETELY ON THE LOA. AT THIS STAGE, WE DO NOT FEEL WE CAN ADDRESS PROPOSALS WHICH GO BEYOND THE NUMBERS IN THE LOA.

4. FYI: THIS MISSILE STRATEGIC RESERVE WOULD NOT BE NEEDED IMMEDIATELY TO MAKE THE HAWK SYSTEM OPERATIONAL. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE 532 MISSILES IN THE LOA ARE AN ADEQUATE NUMBER FOR NORMAL OPERATIONS AND TO PROVIDE A RESERVE. WHEN AND IF THE GOJ WISHES TO ACQUIRE ADDITIONAL MISSILES FOR STRATEGIC RESERVE WE WOULD THEN HAVE TO CONSIDER THE MATTER AT THAT TIME. END FYI. KISSINGER

NOTE BY OC/T: EXDIS CAPTION ADDED PER S/S-O, MR. JOHNSON
10/10/75.

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NNN

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